

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 DLOS-09 /142 W
-----076045 241636Z /50

R 241250Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8568
INFO ALL SEABED TREATY REVIEW POSTS

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E.O. 16652: NA
TAGS: PARM CCD
SUBJ: SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE: SUMMARY OF
GENERAL DEBATE - MAIN ISSUES

1. SUMMARY: THE FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES MAJOR ISSUES THAT
HAVE ARISEN AT SEABED TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE DURING
GENERAL DEBATE WHICH ENDED EVENING JUNE 23. IT OUTLINES
PLAN OF ACTION THAT DEL INTENDS TO FOLLOW AS DRAFTING OF
FINAL DOCUMENT COMMENCES NEXT WEEK. END SUMMARY

2. ONE OF MAJOR ISSUES WILL BE THE NEEDFOR FURTHER
NEGOTIATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE V OF THE TREATY AND THE
PURPOSE OF SUCH NEGOTIATIONS. ROMANIANS HAVE INTRO-
DUCED MOST EXTREME PROPOSAL WHICH CALLS FOR NEGOTIATIONS
TO LIMIT OCEANIC AS WELL AS OTHER SEABED ACTIVITIES.
MOST EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES HAVE CALLED FOR FURTHER
NEGOTIATIONS TO EXTEND THE SCOPE OF THE TREATY TO NON-
NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON THE SEABED. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS CLEAR
THAT THESE STATEMENTS ARE DESIGNED LARGELY TO SHOW EAST IN
FAVORABLE LIGHT, AND SOVIETS HAVE EXPLICITLY TOLD US THAT,
OF COURSE TREATY REGIME CANNOT BE EXTENDED IF US WERE
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UNPREPARED TO EXPAND TREATY. INCIDENTALLY, SOVIETS CLEARLY
PREFER NEW TREATY TO AMENDMENT OF EXISTING ONE IF
ARTICLE V IS TO BE IMPLEMENTED. DEL INTENDS TO OPPOSE
ANY COMMITMENT TO EARLY NEGOTIATIONS PER INSTRUCTIONS.

3. THE SWEDES, IN PARTICULAR, AND SEVERAL OTHER DELS INCLUD-
ING THE DUTCH AND AUSTRALIANS HAVE EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION

AT THE ABSENCE OF DETAILED REVIEW OF IMPACT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES AS CALLED FOR IN ARTICLE VII. SWEDES WILL PRESS HARD FOR CONTINUING REVIEW OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS, AND FOR EARLY FOLLOW-ON REVCON. DEL BELIEVES IT WILL PROBABLY PROVE NECESSARY TO REFER THIS ISSUE TO CCD (SEE BELOW).

4. THE JAPANESE IN PARTICULAR HAVE PRESSED FOR STRENGTHENING VERIFICATION PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE III, AND HAVE RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM SEVERAL OTHER DELS. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE MADE CLEAR THAT THEY ARE NOT SEEKING TREATY AMENDMENT AT THIS TIME. WE AND THE BRITISH HAVE BEEN TRYING TO PERSUADE THE JAPANESE THAT THE PRESENT LANGUAGE OF ARTICLE III MEETS MOST OF THEIR CONCERNS. GIVEN APPARENT JAPANESE FLEXIBILITY, WE BELIEVE THAT LANGUAGE CAN BE DRAFTED FOR FINAL DOCUMENT WHICH WILL MEET JAPANESE DESIRE. SOVIETS CLEARLY ARE UNEASY ABOUT REFERENCES TO ENMOD CONVENTION AS A MODEL FOR VERIFICATION PROCEDURES.

5. TIMING AND PROCEDURE FOR CALLING SUBSEQUENT REVCON ALSO IS A MAJOR ISSUE. SOME DELS, NOTABLY THE SWEDES, WANT TO SET A FIXED DATE (PROBABLY 1982). HOWEVER, MOST WESTERN DELS AND THE SOVIET BLOC PREFER A MORE FLEXIBLE PROCEDURE. MAIN PROBLEM WILL BE TO GET A CONSENSUS WITHOUT HAVING TO BRING THISS ISSUE TO A VOTE.

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6. SIMMERING GREEK-TURKISH CONFLICT THREATENS TO BREAK OUT HERE BECAUSE OF THE TURKS' INSISTENCE THAT EXPLICIT REFERENCE BE MADE TO THE FACT THAT NOTHING IN SEABED TREATY IMPAIRS OBLIGATIONS UNDER TREATIES THAT ESTABLISH DEMILITARIZED ZONES. TURKS ARE GETTING AT TREATIES OF LAUSANNE AND PARIS, WHICH DEMILITARIZE SOME AEGEAN ISLANDS. GREEKS RIGHTLY SEE THAT THIS REFERENCE IS DIRECTED AT THEM AND WILL INSIST UPON REPLYING IF THE TURKS SEEK TO INSERT LANGUAGE IN THE FINAL DECLARATION. WE AND OTHERS ARE TRYING TO PERSUADE THE TURKS THAT LANGUAGE OF ARTICLES IV AND IX ALREADY MEET THEIR CONCERNS, AND THAT THE ISSUE OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TREATIES IS NOT ONE FOR THIS CONFERENCE TO DECIDE.

7. FINALLY, THE INDIANS AND PERHAPS ONE OR TWO OTHER STATES MAY WISH TO INCLUDE IN FINAL ACT A STATEMENT THAT, DEPENDING ON LOS RESULTS, COASTAL STATES COULD HAVE A RIGHT TO INTERFERE WITH VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OR WITHIN PROSPECTIVE 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE. OTHERS WANT TO MAKE EXPLICIT THAT NOTHING ACCOMPLISHED AT LOS CONFERENCE SHOULD AFFECT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TREATY. WHILE WE, OF COURSE, SUPPORT LATTER INTER-

PRETATION, IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE A FORMULATION
OF ANY SORT THAT WILL GAIN CONSENSUS.

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
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NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 DLOS-09 /142 W
-----076103 241635Z /50

R 241250Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8569
INFO ALL SEABED TREATY REVIEW POSTS

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COMMENT: AS A GENERAL APPROACH DEL BELIEVES IT WILL BE
NECESSARY TO REFER VARIOUS PROPOSALS THAT EMERGE IN THIS
CONFERENCE TO THE CCD FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. THIS
MAY PROVIDE A USEFUL SAFETY VALVE WHEN AGREEMENT CANNOT
BE REACHED HERE. WE PROPOSE TO EXPLORE WITH OTHER DELS
IN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS THE FORMULATION OF LANGUAGE WHICH
WOULD REQUEST CCD TO SET UP A SPECIAL STUDY GROUP OF
EXPERTS TO CONTINUE EXAMINATION OF SEABED ISSUE,
SIMILAR TO THE SEISMIC EXPERTS GROUP NOW IN BEING.
THIS WOULD PERMIT PARTICIPATION OF NON-CCD MEMBERS WHO
ARE TREATY PARTIES. WE BELIEVE SUCH A MECHANISM
PROBABLY WILL BE NECESSARY, BUT WILL RESIST GIVING IT
SPECIFIC NEGOTIATION RESPONSIBILITIES.SORENSEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SEABED, TEXT, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA05148
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770226-1097
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA USSALTTWO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770620/aaaaaril.tel
Line Count: 158
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f7634977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2039199
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE: SUMMARY OF GENERAL DEBATE - MAIN ISSUES
TAGS: PARM, CCD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f7634977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009